

**DECISION NOTICE**  
**CENTENNIAL BIRD SHOOTING PRESERVE**  
Prepared by Region 3 Dillon Office, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
April 14, 2000

**Proposal**

On December 23, 1999, Thomas Tamcke made a written application to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) for a bird shooting preserve. FWP is the licensing agency for Shooting Preserves. The property is located in T9SR12W, S1/2N1/2 and S1/2 Sec 20; S1/2N1/2 and S1/2 Sec. 21; N1/2N1/2 Sec. 28; N11/2N1/2Sec. 29, and encompasses a total of 1240 acres. The proposal is to release pheasants and chukars for private hunting purposes.

**Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Process**

The proposal has been outlined in an Environmental Assessment (EA) by FWP to satisfy MEPA. FWP is required to assess the impacts to the human and natural environment. The EA was available for public comment from March 17 to March 31, 2000. A public notice was placed in the Dillon Tribune Examiner.

**Issues Raised in the Environmental Assessment**

The checklist EA specifies the issues. No major impacts are known to occur if the permit is issued. Some of the minor impacts listed in the EA included the following:

Minor noise impacts could occur as hunting of released birds takes place. However, the shooting preserve is surrounded by lands owned by the applicant. Therefore, this impact will be minimal;

There is potential for competition between chukars and Hungarian partridge, but given the fact that chukars released by FWP in this general area in the past have not been successful makes this potential competition unlikely;

The potential competition between these introduced birds and natives is unknown, but the unlikely survival and perpetuation of these species in the wild should minimize those concerns;

There will undoubtedly be increased demand for additional government services as a result of this preserve. Trespass is a possibility, as is the issue of shooting of these birds from public roads, which are juxtaposed on either side of the preserve.

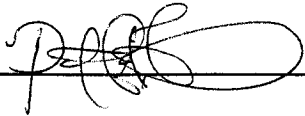
**General Summary of Public Comments**

Only one comment was received during the review period. The State Historic Preservation Office commented that it knew of no historically significant sites on the area encompassing the proposed preserve.

*Beaver head*

**Decision**

Utilizing the information contained in the EA and the lack of public comment, FWP establishes that there are no known significant impacts likely to result from this project. It is therefore my decision to approve the permit for the Centennial Shooting Preserve.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. J. Flowers', is written over a horizontal line.

Patrick J. Flowers  
Regional Supervisor  
Bozeman, Montana 59715  
April 14, 2000